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ILLEGAL ALIEN FOUND GUILTY OF TRANSPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that late yesterday, a federal jury found Carlos Alexis Rodriguez-Hernandez (age 25, of Mexico) guilty of transporting illegal aliens and illegal reentry after deportation. Rodriguez-Hernandez faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison. His sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 29, 2011.

According to the evidence presented at trial, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol found Rodriguez-Hernandez in the United States on October 20, 2010, while transporting other illegal aliens from Nashville, Tennessee to Florida. A subject in Nashville paid Rodriguez-Hernandez \$300 to deliver the illegal aliens to a job site in Florida. Rodriguez-Hernandez had been previously removed from the United States to Mexico on August 15, 2008, March 22, 2009, and May 30, 2009. He did not have permission or consent from the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security for readmission to the United States. He has two prior convictions for illegal entry in the United States on August 14, 2008 and April 1, 2009.

This case was investigated by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol. It is being prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Myrna Amelia Mesa and Assistant United States Attorney Bruce S. Ambrose.